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SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

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SEGA®

THE ELIAS COMEBACK YOU CAN DANCE TO—EVERYBODY JOIN

THE PRINCE & THE REVOLUTION

PLUS:

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE WORLD THINKS YOU'RE DEAD--"AFTERLIFE: PART ONE" GIVES KNUCKLES THE ANSWERS

THIS IS WHAT IT SOUNDS LIKE WHEN MONGEESE SING—MINA DOES HER OWN MIKE CHECK IN "SONGBIAD"

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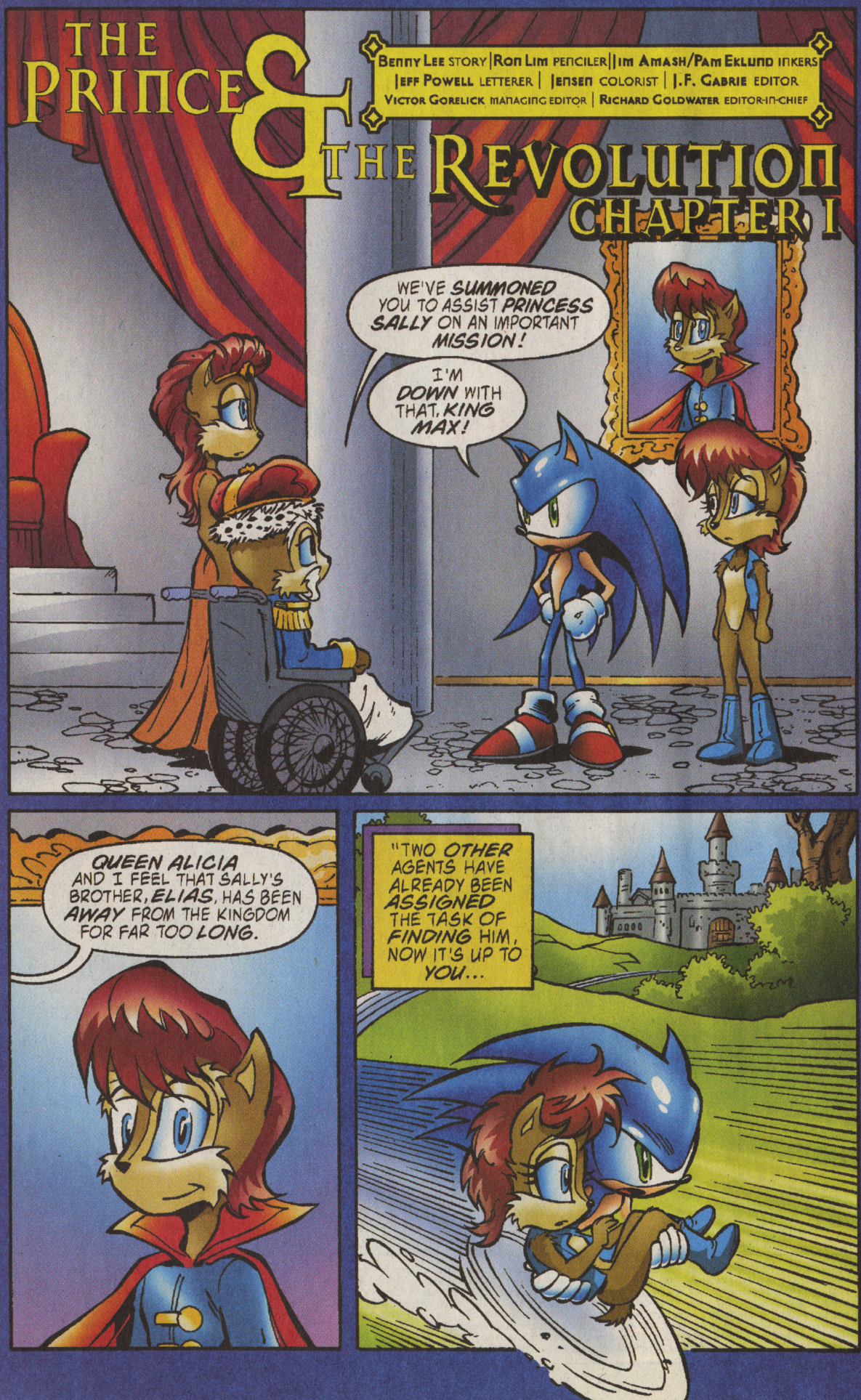
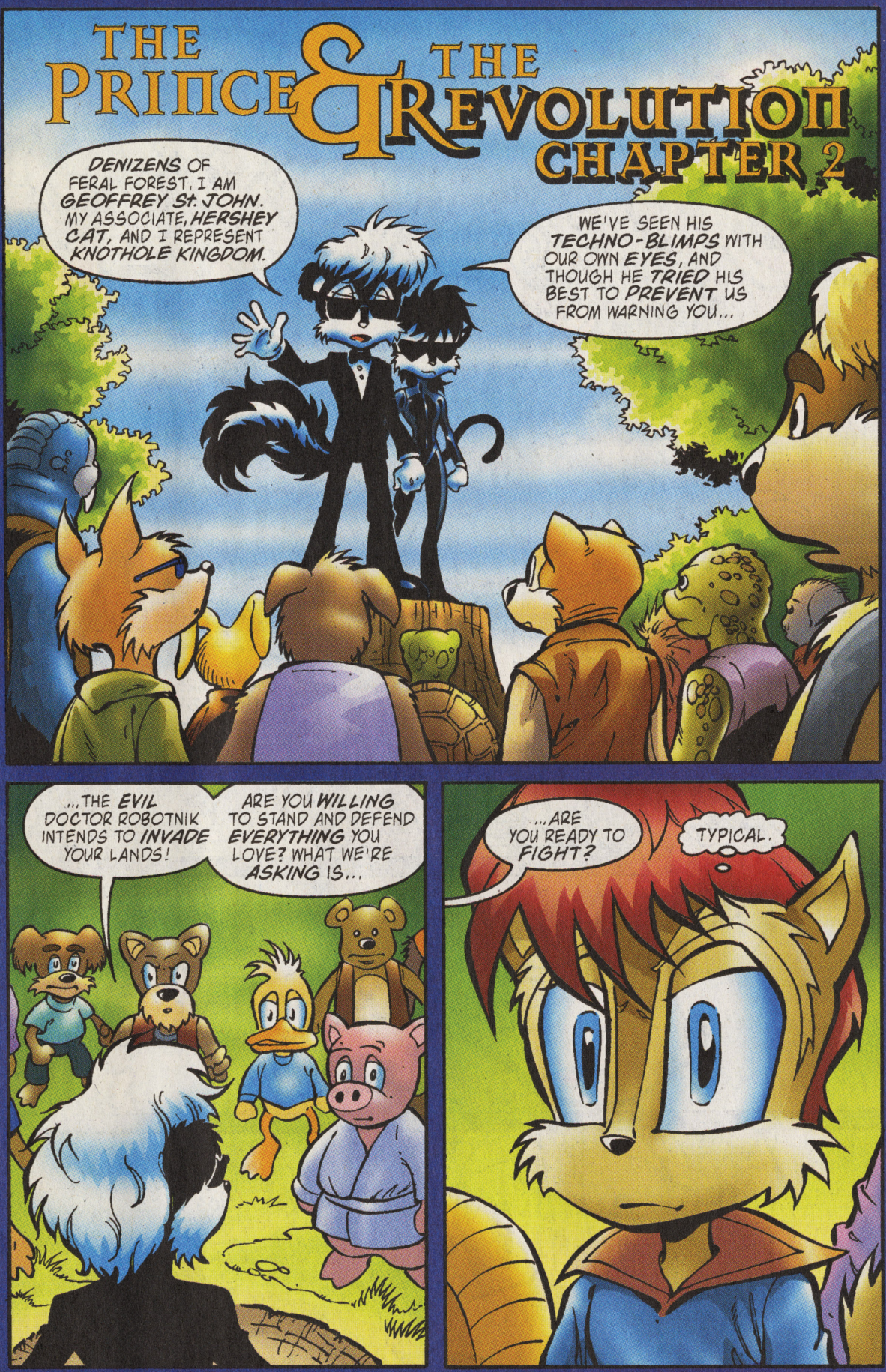

THE PRINCE & THE REVOLUTION
CHAPTER I
BENNY LEE STORY | RON LIM PENCILER | JIM AMASH/PAM EKLUND INKERS
JEFF POWELL LETTERER | JENSEN COLORIST | J.F. GABRIE EDITOR
VICTOR GORELICK MANAGING EDITOR | RICHARD GOLDWATER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
WE'VE SUMMONED YOU TO ASSIST PRINCESS SALLY ON AN IMPORTANT MISSION!
I'M DOWN WITH THAT, KING MAX!
QUEEN ALICIA AND I FEEL THAT SALLY'S BROTHER, ELIAS, HAS BEEN AWAY FROM THE KINGDOM FOR FAR TOO LONG.
"TWO OTHER AGENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN ASSIGNED THE TASK OF FINDING HIM, NOW IT'S UP TO YOU...

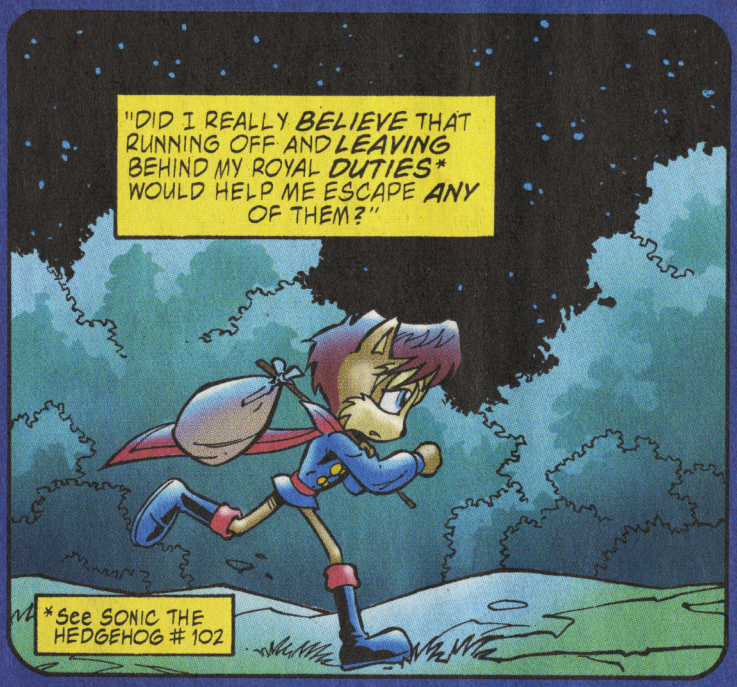
...TO HELP THEM!"
HOLD ON TIGHT, HERSHEY, M'LUV!
PRINCE ELIAS' TRAIL LED US TO FERAL FOREST, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE DOCTOR ROBOTNIK MADE IT HERE, TOO!
THOOM
NICE EVASIVE TACTICS, GEOFFREY DEAR.
WELL, I NEVER CLAIMED TO BE MYLES PROWER, YOU KNOW...
"WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING!"
SO, HOW'S YOUR DAUGHTER DOING, JOSS?
MEG'S DOING REALLY WELL, GRIFFIN, OL' BOY! DOC STORK SAID THE BABY'S GONNA BE HERE ANY DAY NOW AND--
HEY! WHERE ARE THE REST OF THE FOREST FOLK HEADED TO IN SUCH A HURRY?
THERE'S BEEN A PLANE CRASH!

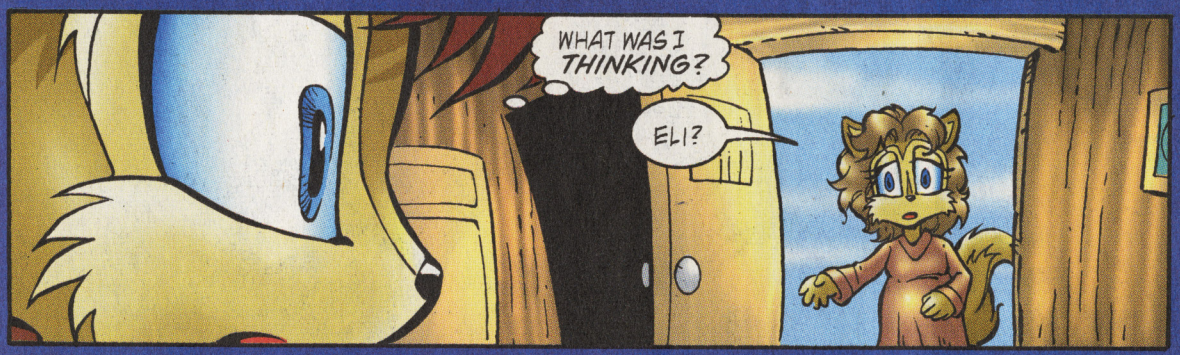
MEG, WE'RE GOING TO SEE WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT!
BE CAREFUL, DAD!
A PLANE CRASH?
SOUNDS SERIOUS.
CHUNKT
I'D BETTER TELL MY HUSBAND.
ELI?
YES, MEG? WHAT IS IT, DARLING?
I'M NOT SURE.
End of Chapter 1


THE PRINCE & THE REVOLUTION
CHAPTER 2
DENIZENS OF FERAL FOREST, I AM GEOFFREY St. JOHN. MY ASSOCIATE, HERSHEY CAT, AND I REPRESENT KNOTHOLE KINGDOM.
WE'VE SEEN HIS TECHNO-BLIMPS WITH OUR OWN EYES, AND THOUGH HE TRIED HIS BEST TO PREVENT US FROM WARNING YOU...
...THE EVIL DOCTOR ROBOTNIK INTENDS TO INVADE YOUR LANDS!
ARE YOU WILLING TO STAND AND DEFEND EVERYTHING YOU LOVE? WHAT WE'RE ASKING IS...
...ARE YOU READY TO FIGHT?
TYPICAL.

YEEEAAAHHH!!!
AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
IT WORKED! MASTERFULLY PLAYED, GEOFFREY...
YOU ALWAYS DID HAVE A KNACK FOR MAKING BAD IDEAS SOUND LIKE GOOD ONES AT THE TIME.
ELI? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I'M TIRED OF WAR AND POLITICS, MEG. I JUST WANT TO LIVE OUT THE REST OF MY LIFE IN PEACE.
AND SO SHOULD THE REST OF YOU.
BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, ELI. WERE WAR AND POLITICS PART OF YOUR PAST?
THE PAST YOU REFUSE TO SPEAK OF?

SOON...
IT WAS BOUND TO HAPPEN.


"DID I REALLY BELIEVE THAT RUNNING OFF AND LEAVING BEHIND MY ROYAL DUTIES* WOULD HELP ME ESCAPE ANY OF THEM?"
*See SONIC THE HEDGEHOG # 102


WHAT WAS I THINKING?
ELI?

WE HAVE--
PRINCE ELIAS!!

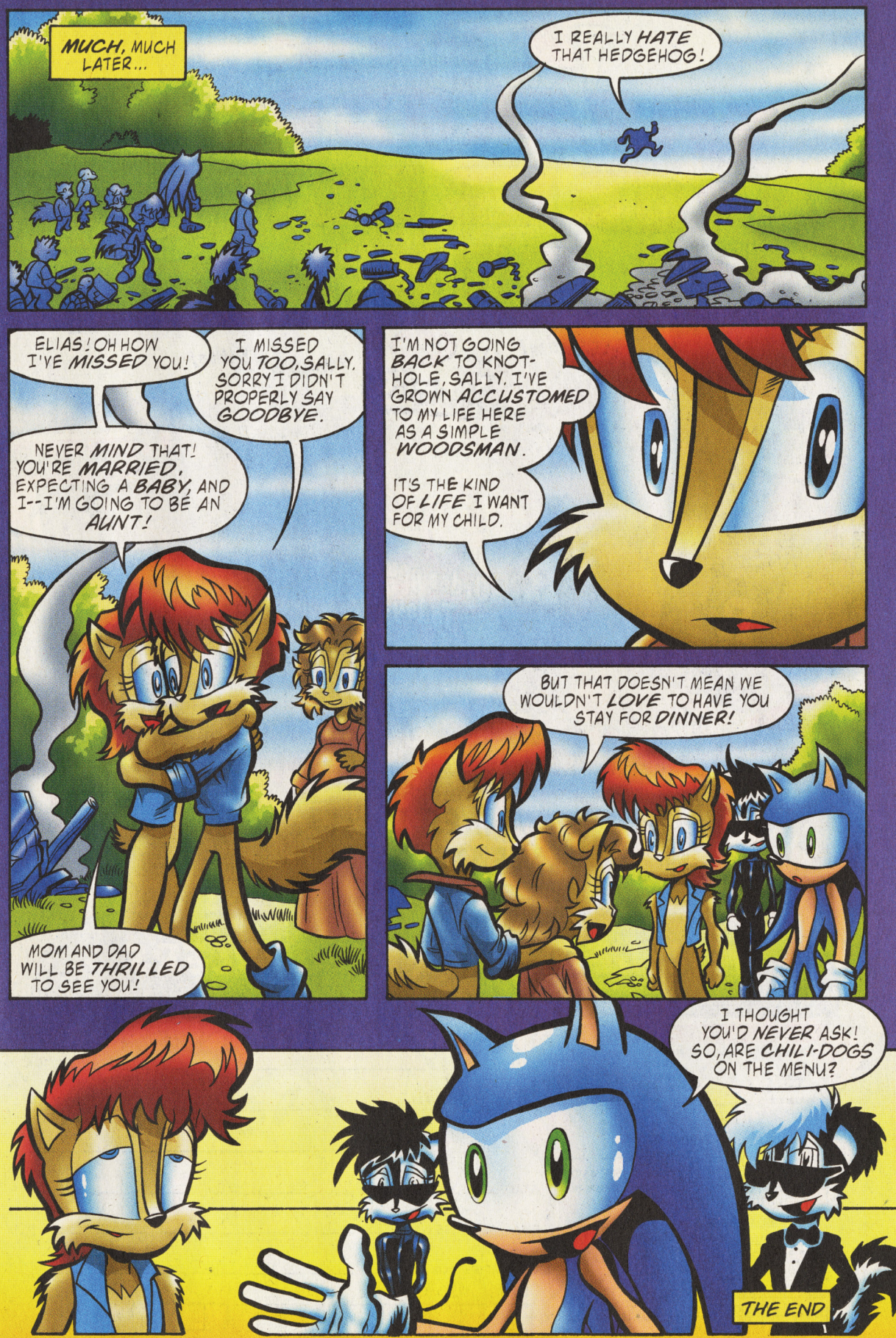
--GUESTS?
AT LAST WE'VE FOUND YOU!
End of Chapter 2

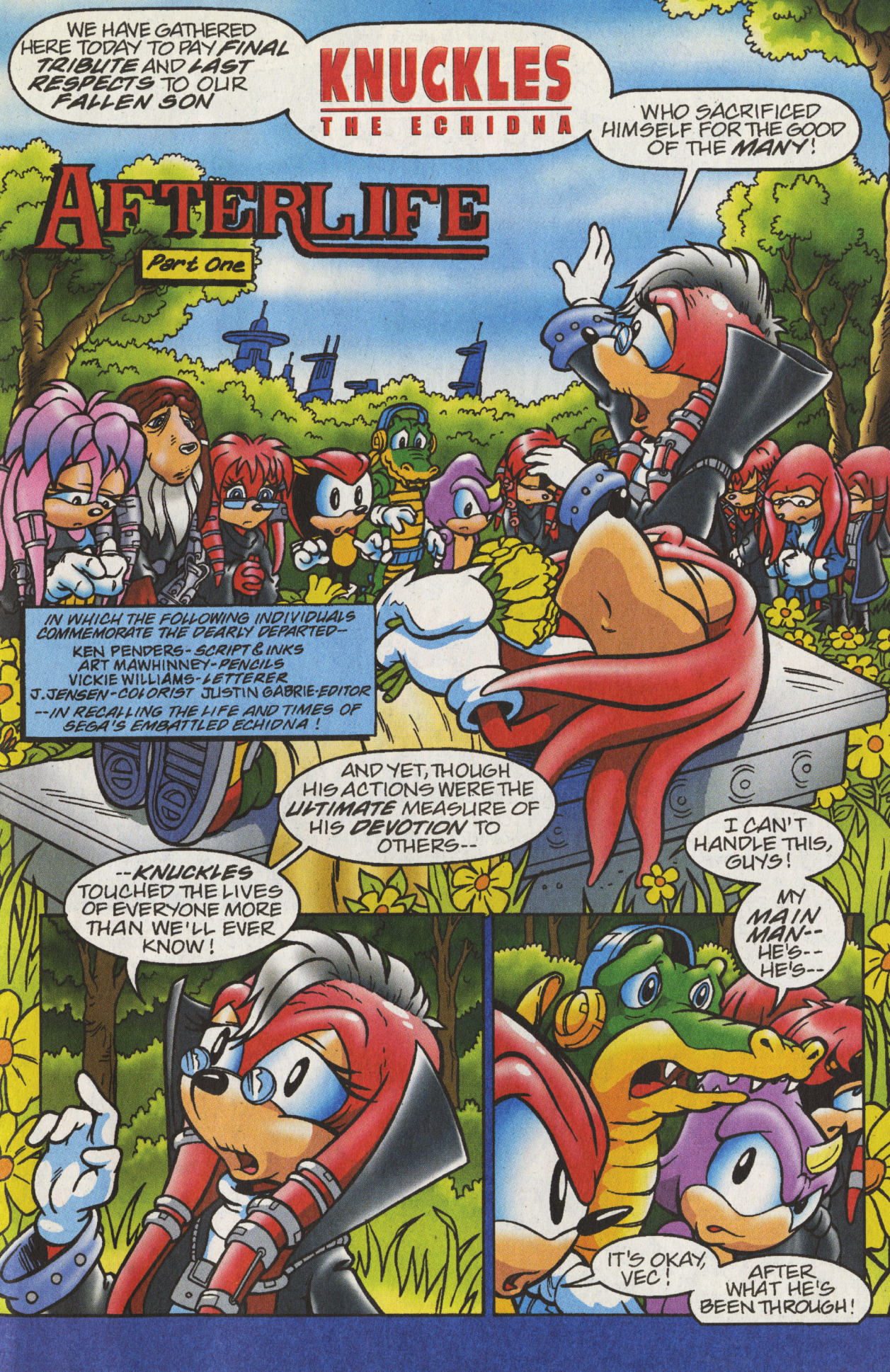
THE PRINCE & THE REVOLUTION
CHAPTER 3
WHAT WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE, MEG? I'M PACKING OUR BAGS SO WE CAN GET AS FAR AWAY FROM HERE AS POSSIBLE.
SO, IS THIS THE WAY THE HEIR TO THE THRONE OF ACORN HANDLES A STRESSFUL SITUATION? BY RUNNING AWAY?
MY PRINCE, LISTEN TO ME--
I'M SICK AND TIRED OF LISTENING TO YOU!

DO YOU HEAR ME SKUNK? I'M THROUGH TAKING ORDERS FROM YOU!
WHOOM
WHAT NOW?
SURRENDER IN THE NAME OF THE GREAT AND POWERFUL DOCTOR ROBOTNIK!
WOULD YOU RATHER TAKE ORDERS...
FROM HIM?"

WELL, WELL TALK ABOUT FINDING A SECRET TOY SURPRISE IN THE BOX!
I INVADE THIS BACK-WATER BURG OUT IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE, AND WHO DO MY E-105 ARMY CAPTURE?
PRINCE ELIAS ACORN! SON OF MY ENEMY, KING MAX! BUT WAIT--THE PLOT SICKENS!
I ALSO GET THE PRINCE'S BRIDE AND MAX'S UNBORN GRANDCHILD IN THE BARGAIN!
WHO'S GOT IT BETTER THAN ME?
WHA--?
BLZZT
KRASH
BLZZT
KRASH

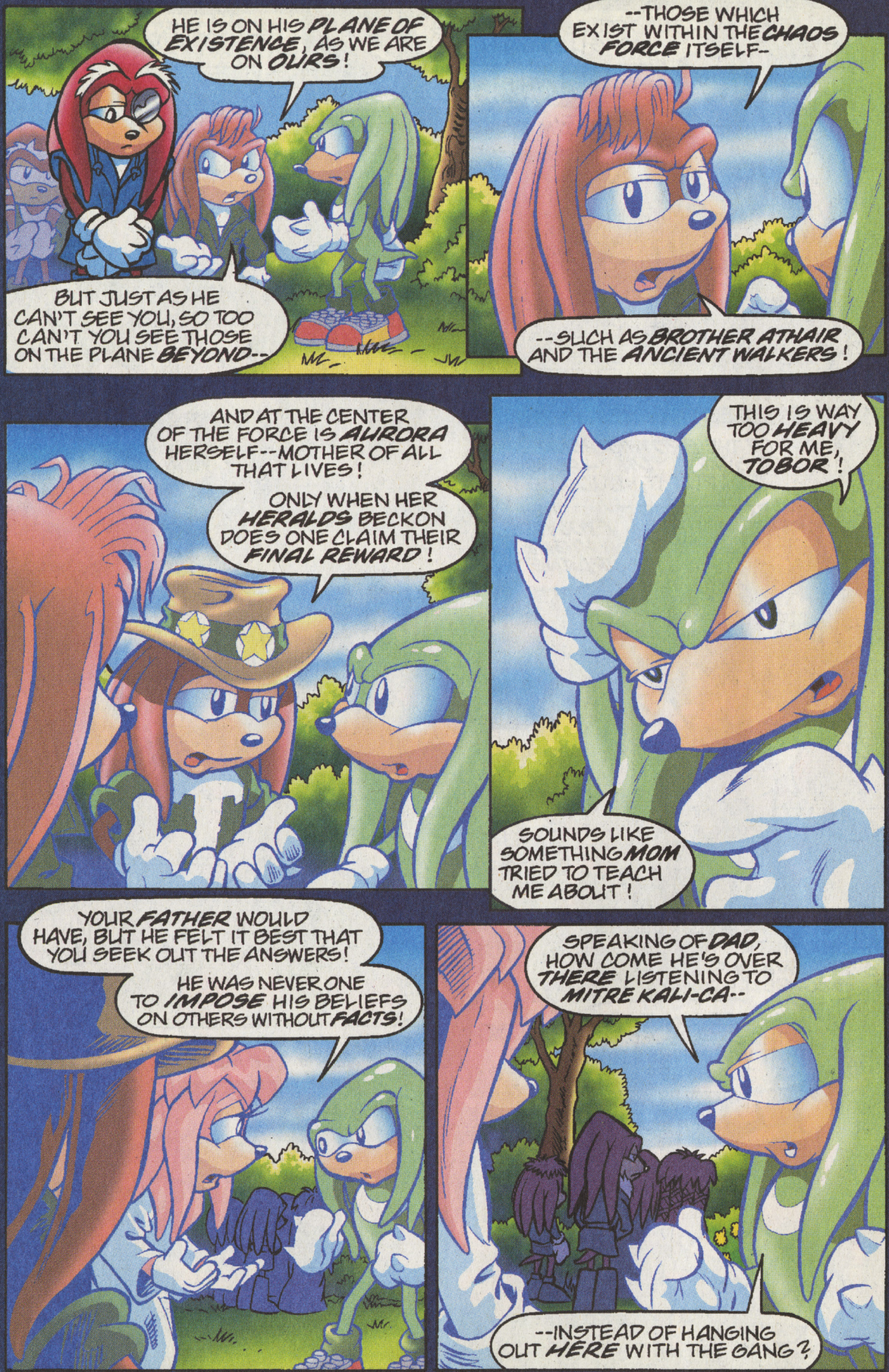
VERY GOOD QUESTION!
PRINCESS SALLY ACORN AND SONIC?!
JUST MOWING THE LAWN, RO"BUTT"NIK! THERE WERE SOME WEEDS THAT NEEDED TO BE CUT!
GIVE IT UP, HEROES--YOU'RE HOPELESSLY OUTNUMBERED!
I HATE TO SAY IT, 'EDGEHOG, BUT HE'S BLOODY WELL RIGHT!
GUESS AGAIN, GEOFF...
YOU MADE A BIG MISTAKE COMING TO FERAL FOREST, ROBOTNIK!
YOU WERE SAYING, STINKY...?
DAD!
NO ONE GETS AWAY WITH KIDNAPPING MY FAMILY AND INVADING MY HOME--ALL IN ONE DAY!
LET'S DO IT TO IT!


MUCH, MUCH LATER...
I REALLY HATE THAT HEDGEHOG!
ELIAS! OH HOW I'VE MISSED YOU!
I MISSED YOU TOO, SALLY. SORRY I DIDN'T PROPERLY SAY GOODBYE.
NEVER MIND THAT! YOU'RE MARRIED, EXPECTING A BABY, AND I--I'M GOING TO BE AN AUNT!
MOM AND DAD WILL BE THRILLED TO SEE YOU!
I'M NOT GOING BACK TO KNOT-HOLE, SALLY. I'VE GROWN ACCUSTOMED TO MY LIFE HERE AS A SIMPLE WOODSMAN.
IT'S THE KIND OF LIFE I WANT FOR MY CHILD.
BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN WE WOULDN'T LOVE TO HAVE YOU STAY FOR DINNER!
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK! SO, ARE CHILI-DOGS ON THE MENU?
THE END

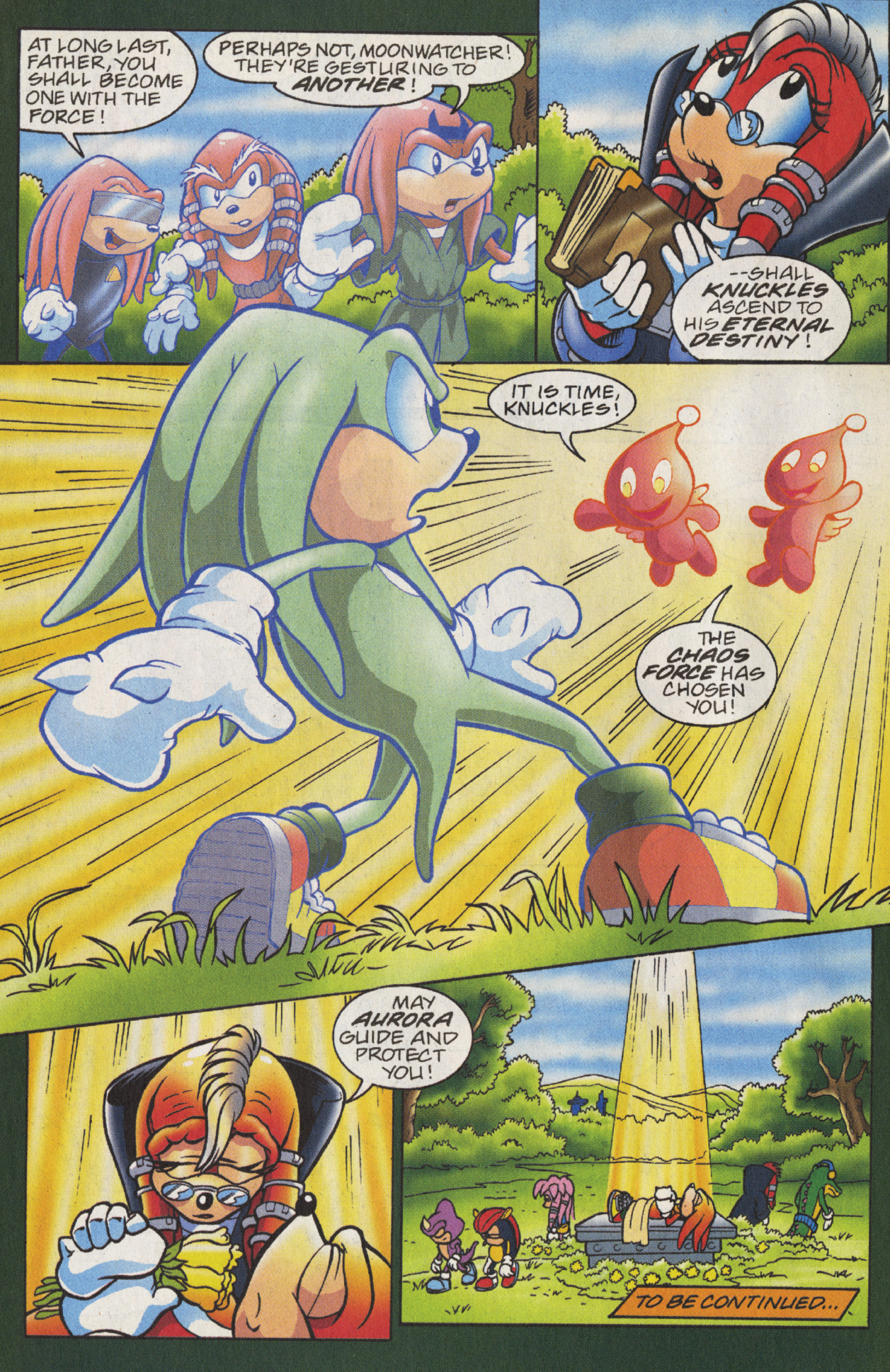

WE HAVE GATHERED HERE TODAY TO PAY FINAL TRIBUTE AND LAST RESPECTS TO OUR FALLEN SON
KNUCKLES
THE ECHIDNA
WHO SACRIFICED HIMSELF FOR THE GOOD OF THE MANY!
AFTERLIFE
Part One
IN WHICH THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS COMMEMORATE THE DEARLY DEPARTED--
KEN PENDERS-SCRIPT & INKS
ART MAWHINNEY-PENCILS
VICKIE WILLIAMS-LETTERER
J. JENSEN-COLORIST JUSTIN GABRIE-EDITOR
--IN RECALLING THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SEGA'S EMBATTLED ECHIDNA!
AND YET, THOUGH HIS ACTIONS WERE THE ULTIMATE MEASURE OF HIS DEVOTION TO OTHERS--
I CAN'T HANDLE THIS, GUYS!
MY MAIN MAN-- HE'S-- HE'S--
--KNUCKLES TOUCHED THE LIVES OF EVERYONE MORE THAN WE'LL EVER KNOW!
IT'S OKAY, VEC!
AFTER WHAT HE'S BEEN THROUGH!

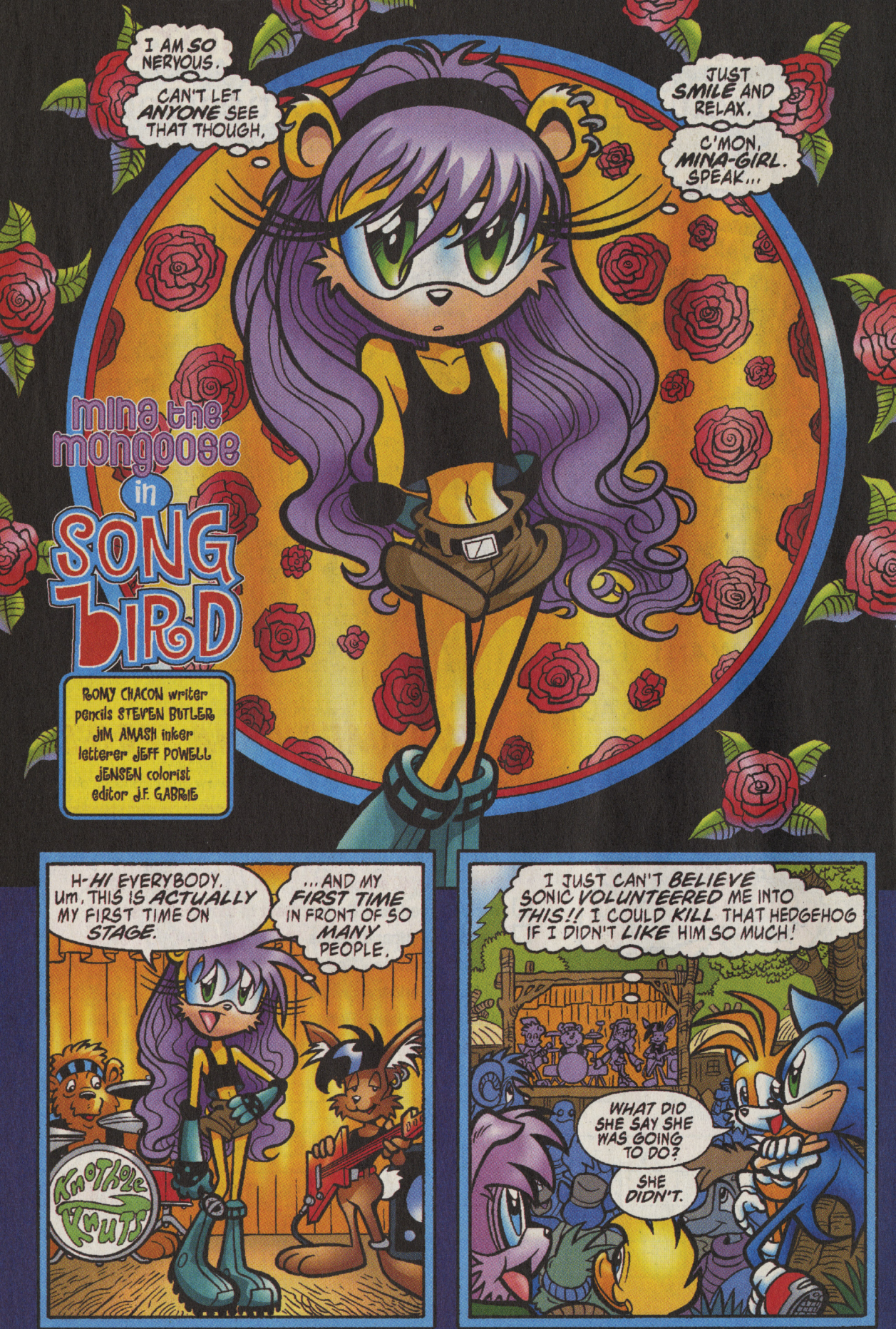
THOUGH ONLY OF REASONING STATUS* A FEW MONTHS AGO, THIS PROUD MAN-CHILD OF ECHIDNAOPOLIS EXPERIENCED MORE THAN MOST OTHERS DO IN A LIFETIME!
*ECHIDNA EQUIVALENT OF LEGAL AGE--JUSTIN.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE'S REALLY--AND TRULY--
--GONE...
HE WAS OF A NOBLE LINEAGE, THE SEVENTEENTH DEFENDER OF THE CHAOS EMERALD--
--AND GUARDIAN OF THE FLOATING ISLAND--
AND PROBABLY STILL WOULD BE IF I OR MY OFFICERS HAD INTERVENED!
--A SCION OF THE HOUSE OF EDMUND--
--BELOVED SON OF THE FORMER GUARDIAN, LOCKE, AND THE LADY LARA-LE--
OH, WYN!
--SOB--
HERE YOU GO, DARLING!
--A BROTHER, IN THE BROADEST SENSE, TO A SELECT BAND HE TRAVELED WITH--
THE CHAOTIX JUST WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU, KNUX!
--AND A PROTECTOR OF ALL WHO DWELLED IN PEACE UPON THIS LAND!
IT WILL BE A LONG TIME INDEED--

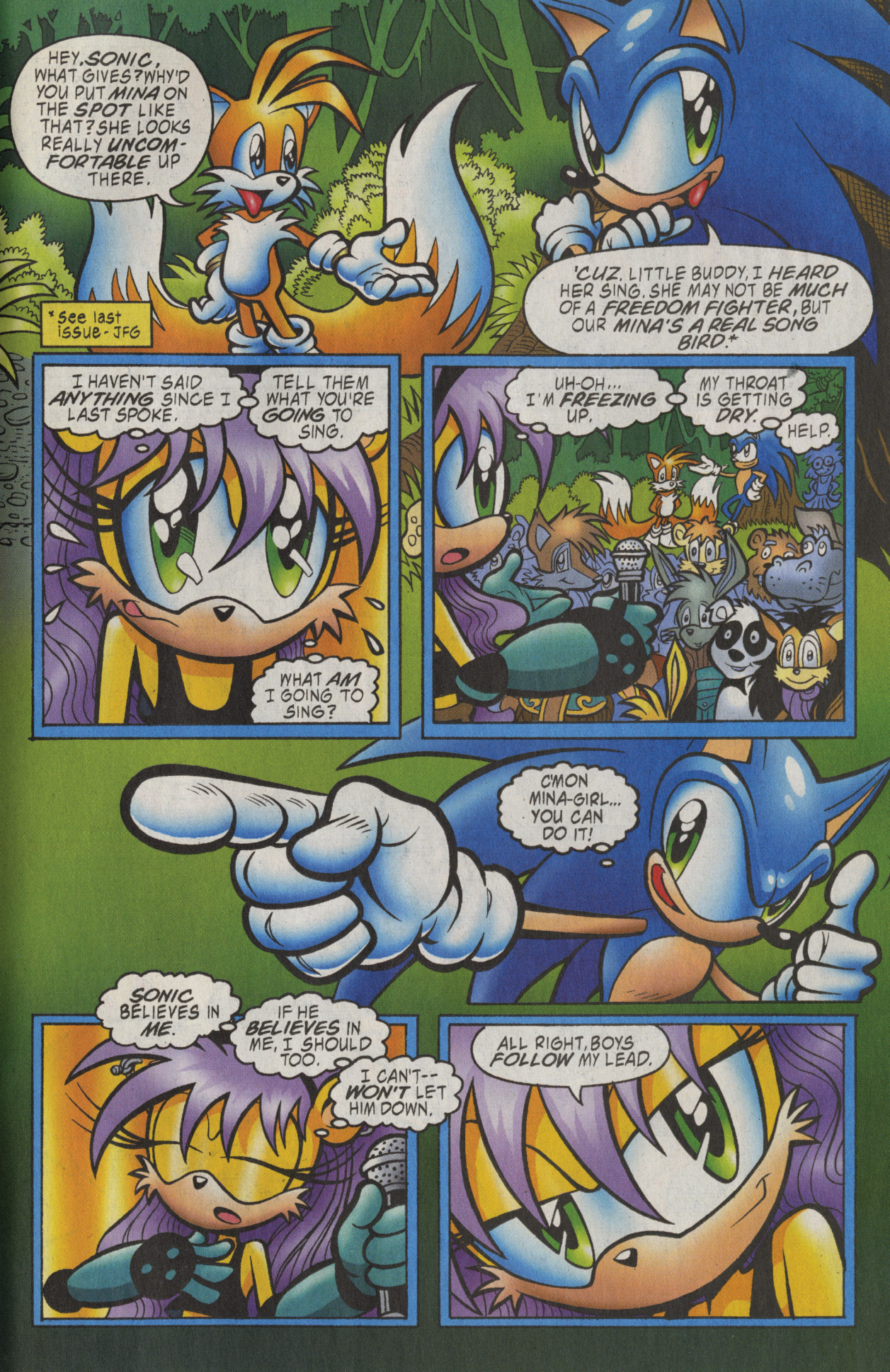
--BEFORE HIS LIKE WALKS AMONG US AGAIN!
THIS IS SO WEIRD--
IF I'M DEAD--
--HOW COME I'M WATCHING MY OWN FUNERAL?
WE OF THE BROTHERHOOD DO NOT SIMPLY "DIE"--AS YOU SO CRUDELY PUT IT, KNUCKLES!
WE EVOLVE TO A HIGHER PLANE!
BROTHER STEPPENWOLF IS CORRECT!
WE ARE CONNECTED TO THE CHAOS FORCE--THAT WHICH BINDS ALL TOGETHER!
IF THAT'S SO, HARLAN--
--THEN WHY CAN'T MY GRANDFATHER SABRE SEE ME DO THIS?


HE IS ON HIS PLANE OF EXISTENCE, AS WE ARE ON OURS!
BUT JUST AS HE CAN'T SEE YOU, SO TOO CAN'T YOU SEE THOSE ON THE PLANE BEYOND--
--THOSE WHICH EXIST WITHIN THE CHAOS FORCE ITSELF--
--SUCH AS BROTHER ATHAIR AND THE ANCIENT WALKERS!
AND AT THE CENTER OF THE FORCE IS AURORA HERSELF--MOTHER OF ALL THAT LIVES!
ONLY WHEN HER HERALDS BECKON DOES ONE CLAIM THEIR FINAL REWARD!
THIS IS WAY TOO HEAVY FOR ME, TOBOR!
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING MOM TRIED TO TEACH ME ABOUT!
YOUR FATHER WOULD HAVE, BUT HE FELT IT BEST THAT YOU SEEK OUT THE ANSWERS!
HE WAS NEVER ONE TO IMPOSE HIS BELIEFS ON OTHERS WITHOUT FACTS!
SPEAKING OF DAD, HOW COME HE'S OVER THERE LISTENING TO MITRE KALI-CA--
--INSTEAD OF HANGING OUT HERE WITH THE GANG?

YOUR FATHER MAY BE AWARE OF YOUR NEW STATE OF BEING--
--BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE IT ANY LESS PAINFUL FOR HIM TO DEAL WITH!
HE WASN'T READY FOR YOUR EVOLUTION JUST YET!
--AND SO SHALL IT BE WRITTEN, SO LET IT BE SAID--
HUH?!
WHAT'S WITH THE LIGHT?
ANYTHING YOU GUYS FORGOT TO TELL ME?!
--THAT AT THE HOUR OF OUR FINAL JUDGEMENT--
--AS THE ANGELS OF AURORA SOUND THEIR CLARION CALL--
IT'S THE HERALDS, KNUCKLES!
THEY'VE COME TO ESCORT ONE OF US TO THE CHAOS FORCE!
--AND ASHES TURN TO ASHES--
-- AND DUST TO DUST--


AT LONG LAST, FATHER, YOU SHALL BECOME ONE WITH THE FORCE!
PERHAPS NOT, MOONWATCHER! THEY'RE GESTURING TO ANOTHER!
--SHALL KNUCKLES ASCEND TO HIS ETERNAL DESTINY!
IT IS TIME, KNUCKLES!
THE CHAOS FORCE HAS CHOSEN YOU!
MAY AURORA GUIDE AND PROTECT YOU!
TO BE CONTINUED...


I AM SO NERVOUS.
CAN'T LET ANYONE SEE THAT THOUGH.
JUST SMILE AND RELAX.
C'MON, MINA-GIRL. SPEAK...
mina the mongoose
in
SONG BIRD
ROMY CHACON writer
pencils STEVEN BUTLER
JIM AMASH inker
letterer JEFF POWELL
JENSEN colorist
editor J.F. GABRIE
H-HI EVERYBODY. Um, THIS IS ACTUALLY MY FIRST TIME ON STAGE.
...AND MY FIRST TIME IN FRONT OF SO MANY PEOPLE.
KNOTHOLE KNUTS
I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE SONIC VOLUNTEERED ME INTO THIS!! I COULD KILL THAT HEDGEHOG IF I DIDN'T LIKE HIM SO MUCH!
WHAT DID SHE SAY SHE WAS GOING TO DO?
SHE DIDN'T.


HEY, SONIC, WHAT GIVES? WHY'D YOU PUT MINA ON THE SPOT LIKE THAT? SHE LOOKS REALLY UNCOM-FORTABLE UP THERE.
'CUZ, LITTLE BUDDY, I HEARD HER SING. SHE MAY NOT BE MUCH OF A FREEDOM FIGHTER, BUT OUR MINA'S A REAL SONG BIRD.*
* See last issue - JFG
I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING SINCE I LAST SPOKE.
TELL THEM WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SING.
WHAT AM I GOING TO SING?
UH-OH... I'M FREEZING UP.
MY THROAT IS GETTING DRY.
HELP.
C'MON MINA-GIRL... YOU CAN DO IT!
SONIC BELIEVES IN ME.
IF HE BELIEVES IN ME, I SHOULD TOO.
I CAN'T-- WON'T LET HIM DOWN.
ALL RIGHT, BOYS FOLLOW MY LEAD.

STAR LIGHT! STAR BRIGHT!
THE FEELING'S ALL RIGHT!
I LOVE THAT SONG!
HEY, SHE SINGS IT GOOD!
THAT'S BECAUSE SHE IS GOOD!
HEY, I LIKE HER!
YEAH, I DO TOO... Uh, HER SINGING THAT IS!
"LOOK AT HER, TAILS, SHE'S REALLY INTO IT. CAN I PICK 'EM OR WHAT?"

NICOLE, PLEASE SCAN THIS AND-- WOW THAT SOUNDS GREAT.
NOW I'M REALLY WOWED. IT'S MINA. I NEVER KNEW SHE HAD THAT KIND OF TALENT.
Sally? We haven't finished.
Sally, why are you listening to that? The decibel levels indicate that the sound is completely overrated.
Of course, I don't have ears...
YAY! ALL RIGHT!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I LOVE YOU!
IF ONLY ARTHUR WERE HERE TO SEE OUR LITTLE GIRL. SHE'S ALL GROWN UP NOW.
I DID IT!
AND IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!
!
YOU'RE RIGHT, NICOLE... OVERRATED... LET'S GET BACK TO WORK.
The End?